

CHANNELS

CLASSIFICATION

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MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
	3	6	9	12

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION
CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR [REDACTED] 4 25X1A9a
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 2

DATE: AUG 23, 1974

SUBJECT: FEDAYEEN LEADER CRITICIZES SOVIET MIDDLE EAST POLICY

REF : FBIS 25, 3 AUG 74, UNCL

GEORGE HABBASH, LEADER OF THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE {PFLP}--ONE OF THE MORE RADICAL FEDAYEEN ORGANIZATIONS--HAS REITERATED HIS LONG-STANDING OPPOSITION TO PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS AND TO SOVIET SUPPORT OF THIS POSITION. HABBASH TIMED HIS STATEMENT TO COINCIDE WITH THE CONCLUSION OF ARAFAT'S VISIT TO MOSCOW.

IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN SEVERAL BEIRUT NEWS-
PAPERS TODAY, HABBASH OPENLY CRITICIZED MOSCOW'S MIDDLE
EAST POLICY. HE CLAIMED THAT THE SOVIETS ARE IN "ERROR"

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RROR"

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ALIGN FIRST LETTER IN THIS BOX.

TYPE THE WORD "ALIGN" TO REGISTER HERE

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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TO THINK THAT THERE COULD BE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS. SOVIET POLICY, HE REPORTEDLY SAID, WAS INEFFECTIVE BECAUSE IT ADMITS ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AND THUS SUPPORTS THE CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN NATION ON ONLY A PART OF THE PALESTINIAN HOMELAND. HE REPORTEDLY WAS CAREFUL, HOWEVER, NOT TO EXAGGERATE DIFFERENCES WITH MOSCOW. HE CLAIMED THAT HIS GROUP'S REFUSAL TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE ALONG ON ARAFAT'S TRIP STEMMED NOT FROM AN ANTI-SOVIET BIAS BUT FROM HIS WISH TO EMPHASIZE THE ABSENCE OF UNANIMITY AMONG THE FEDAYEEN GROUPS ON THE QUESTION OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. E-2 IMPDET.H (SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: MEA DIV AND NIO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

DATE: AUGUST 31, 1974
ORIG: [REDACTED] WHSS 25X1A9a
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